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PACIFIC SCHOOL
OF RELIGION

Photo courtesy Topeka Daily Capital

RUINS OF UDALL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Rev. Herbert M. Parks, supply pastor, assisted by the Rev. Louis Poppe of Whitewater raising the undamaged Christian flag.

(Story on Page 12)

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

JUNE • 1955

In Memory

The Rev. Fred R. Bush, minister to Kansas churches for 32 years, 1912 to 1934, passed away on November 2, 1954. He fell on October 22 while repairing the roof of his home at Rochester, N. Y., and died a few days later of injuries. Mr. Bush served Kansas pastorates at Kirwin, Chapman, Stockton, Kinsley and Anthony.

Mr. Bush has kept in touch with our Congregational programs in Kansas during the 20 years since his retirement, sending his subscription to Congregational Kansas each year. Immediately after "A Century of Congregationalism in Kansas" was published, his check for a copy was received. Our last letter from him in late April 1954 told of the coming celebration May 5th of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Dr. Otto G. Herbrecht, retired Evangelical and Reformed minister of Junction City died in a Topeka Hospital on May 1, 1955. Mr. Herbrecht had served Congregational Churches in California and Arizona, and served as Executive Secretary of the Arizona Council of Churches for three years before coming to Junction City where he served the E & R Church until his retirement in 1952 because of ill health.

His wife, Mrs. Helen Herbrecht, is an ordained Congregational Minister and a member of Eastern Association. She is serving the Universalist Church at Junction City, part time.

Mrs. Anna S. Graham, wife of the Rev. J. J. G. Graham, passed away at Eldorado on May 13, 1955. The Rev. John H. Jones of Towanda assisted with memorial services at Eldorado.

Important Dates

August 3-7: Leadership Workshop at La Foret.

August 14-21: Laymen and Women week long Conference at La Foret.

September 4-27: **Fall Planning Sessions of Conference Boards and Committees at Rymph's:**

4 & 5 —Pilgrim Fellowship Officers

14 — State and Association Sponsors of Pilgrim Fellowship.

15 — Evangelism and Town and Country Committees.

16 — Christian Education Committee.

19 and 20 — Women's Fellowship Board.

20 — (afternoon) Social Action Committee.

At McPherson:

24 and 25 — Second Annual Laymen's Churchmanship Workshop.

25 — Stewardship Committee at 7:30 in the evening.

26 — Trustees meeting 9:000 A.M.

October 4: Southern Association at Partridge.

October 6: Eastern Association at Topeka Seabrook.

October 9 and 10: Western Association at Smith Center.

October 18-20: Midwest Regional at Madison, Wisconsin.

CONGREGATIONAL KANSAS

Vol. 17 **No. 6**

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Editorial and Executive Offices
923 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas

Editors
Supt. and Mrs. L. M. Rymph

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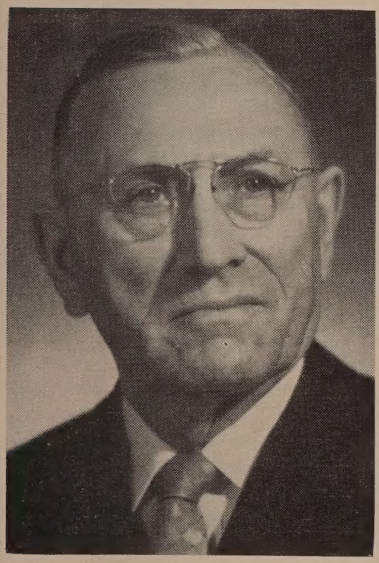
Single subscription — 75 cents

The New Moderator Speaking



Levi E. Zimmerman, Whitewater Conference Moderator

To the Members of the Conference:

Again I must say, these lines are written with all humility as a layman. To be elected to this high office, I consider to be the highest honor I have ever received and I must say (so little deserved). I shall approach it in this way and consider it another piece of work for the Kingdom of God.

May we all, as Christians, read again "The Book." Find there in the passages telling us we are all children of one loving God and as such are to seek His Kingdom first. My fond hope is that we may enter this year in this sense of cooperation.

Now that I have had a little time to think through all that took place at our State Conference at Garden City, may I recall just these outstanding incidents that seemed important to me; the Conference carried throughout its entirety a sense of individual responsibility and freedom of discussion. The inspiration received and the spiritual depth touched by those speakers assigned to that task was probably the most important reason for the success of the meeting.

Then, we would be ungrateful if we didn't thank Dan Hopkins and the Rev. Paul Davis for their arrangments with the weather man and also say, "thank you" to the Church and community for their hospitality. These are some of the things that made this meeting different from the rest.

My sincere hope then is this: that together, minister, layman and laywoman, we go forward this year in that spirit and I am positive that God will richly bless all of us as we go on living and serving His Kingdom as we know we ought.

In closing, I know of no words more fitting to leave with you as a challenge than those of Miss Elsie Farris, namely:

"Do you read the Book?"
"Do you cherish the Cross?"
"Do you LOVE the Church?"

May the blessings of our Heavenly Father be with you in all your worthy undertakings.

Levi Zimmerman, Moderator

Dale Turner Honored

Late in May the Rev. and Mrs. Dale Turner attended commencement at West Virginia Wesleyan — Mr. Turner's Alma Mater where the honorary degree Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him. Congratulations!

Reactions of a Newcomer

Whether, as so many have indicated who have been in Kansas Congregationalism much longer than I, this one hundredth annual meeting of the Congregational-Christian Conference of Kansas rates among the finest of all, I have no way of knowing, but I can say: to this newcomer to the Kansas Congregational fellowship, it gave strong confidence in the vitality of Kansas Congregationalism. The setting of the conference in one of our state's westernmost gardens, gave all its happenings a background of freshness and viability, as did the graciousness of the host church, give a background of charity to all of our camadarie. Three things in particular stood out as good omens for the future.

Fellowship

One was the "classless society", if I may be permitted to lift the term from the bad company it has kept, de-odorize it, and set it down again in Christian fellowship. Of cliques, there were none, nor prima donnas, and if there were among us stuffed shirts, it did not fall my pleasure to meet them. Judging from this meeting it seems that we have no such thing as a "small church" or a "little preacher" or a "small-time layman," and this in both official goings-on and in informal coffee and church step conversation. Nor does it seem that there are classes of persons according to their places upon the theological spectrum, but true acceptance by "Liberals" and "Conservatives" of each other. Is it too much to say that the Congregational Christian Conference of Kansas is itself a vital demonstration that "Liberals" and "Conservatives" can assemble together in the sense of the free church New Testament ecclesia?

Program

Another omen which stood out as good, was the high quality of the addresses in the conference program. Taken as a whole, without singling out any one address, they eloquently spoke of both our inward faith and outward community concern, indicating that our conference realizes that the "Personal Gospel" and the "Social Gospel" are both intrinsic to the Christian Gospel.

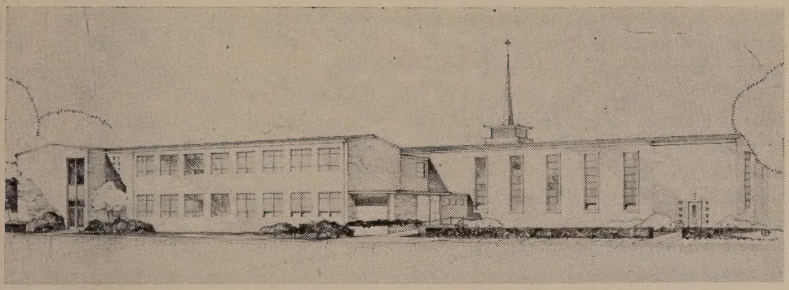
Vision

The third good omen in the meeting was the mood of expectancy. The delegates seemed to feel that our churches have emerged from the critical one hundred years immediately behind us, with a vision of what our churches must be in the next one hundred years now opening ahead of us, and that they have emerged with confidence that the strength to be what they must shall be given to them. Perhaps it is not too much to say that if Christ is our Hope, then the Kansas Congregational and Christian Conference is a part of its fulfillment.

T. Merton Rymph, Anthony

Central Calls Associate

The Rev. Robert W. Tulley, graduating this spring from Chicago Theological Seminary has been called to be Associate Minister of Central Church in Topeka. On June 26 he will be ordained to the Christian ministry in his home church in Wanatosa, Wisconsin. He will take up his new work in Topeka, August 1st.



PROPOSED CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UNIT, TOPEKA FIRST

When plans were made for the building of the new First Congregational Church at 17th and Collins, it was envisioned that some day a religious education unit would be added. At the time it seemed like a distant dream. But almost from the first Sunday the new church opened, March 2, 1949, there has been a need for additional religious educational facilities. Children from the community flocked in to take advantage of the convenient location and the excellent program offered by the new church.

A Vision

Getting underway in a new building and with a new minister, it was impossible for the congregation to consider any additional building; but in 1953 at the annual meeting of the congregation, it was voted that a survey committee be appointed. That committee made a study of existing facilities in the spring of 1953 and made several excellent suggestions for the better use of the present structure. The committee also recommended more space be provided.

Action

In the spring of 1954 the proposal that a religious education unit be erected was discussed with all groups in the church fellowship. Figures were presented to show the need for more facilities and plans were studied for the new unit. In June, 1954, a building fund campaign was approved with the Rev. Cy Hicks, Assistant Superintendent of the Colorado Conference, in charge. At the time of the campaign, $14,000 had already been received in bequests and special gifts. During the campaign itself, an additional $93,000 was pledged. After the successful completion of the campaign a building committe was appointed consisting of George Greenwood, Chairman; Judge Dean McElhenny, Treasurer; Herbert A. Binger, Wm. J. Burns, Mrs. H. Bernerd Fink, William Duncan, Wayne Harding, Jr., Lester Haley, Mrs. T. A. Lee, Brooks Porterfield and Fred Vasey. That committee worked during the fall and winter with architects, Griest and Ekdahl, and by May had recommended plans to present to the congregation. The congregation approved the building plans, the plan of financing, and authorized the committee to go ahead with construction.

The Plan

At present, the members and friends of First Church are looking forward to seeing this new unit become a

reality. It will provide a new nursery and a new toddlers room along with a new beginners room and a kindergarten room. The primary department will be housed in three large rooms to be constructed on the second floor. On the first floor, there will be a memorial library, plus offices and a study. In the basement there will be a large senior room for metings and special gatherings as well as additional space for the junior high department. All rooms in the present structure will still be used by the junior department for additional classes and the three year old nursery class.

The Cost

It is contemplated that this unit will cost between $130,000.00 and $140,000.00 and the hope is to hold ground breaking ceremonies sometime in August. When the new unit is completed, First Church will have almost twice as much floor space as it now has in the existing structure and one of the best religious education units in the entire state of Kansas.

Ray C. Jones, Minister

* * *

Last Issue

Congregational Kansas is not published in July and August, so watch for the September number. Items of interest should be sent to the conference office by August 20.

Christian Social Action

Guy T. Gebhardt, Chairman

"Thy Kingdom Come—But Not Now"

History does not tell us who made the motion to postpone indefinitely the coming of the Kingdom of God. There is no doubt that the first disciples expected an early coming — in their generation. But, perhaps, at some council or by common consent the realization of their hope was postponed and has been postponed by the church through all these two thousand years. It has even been maintained that the Kingdom of God is "post historic". that the main task of the church is to save individual souls and to do what good we can while here below.

Many sincere Christians believe that there is very little we can do about the great social and political issues **NOW**; that in God's own time He will usher in the new day of brotherhood. Was it Muriel Lester who coined the phrase, "Thy Kingdom Come — But Not Now"?

Many others believe that the church should have a moral judgment on such vital issues as organized crime, racial discrimination, economic injustice and war. They think that the Christian Church should speak out against social, economic and political sins, that men everywhere should be called to repentance.

The Social Action Committee is anxious that all church members face up to the destructiveness of modern social sin. Christians should have a full understanding, a clear conscience and a voice that speaks with faith, courage and love. This calls for sustained individual and group study, both on the nature of our civilization and the will of God for these days. Each local church is urged to carry on some laboratory projects in Christian Social Living and to share it's findings for the mutual benefit of all of us.

Kansas Laymen's Fellowship

Carl Althaus
President

Bill Cribbs
Vice President

Ralph Ewing
Secretary-Treasurer

Rev. James E. Waery
Guest Leader

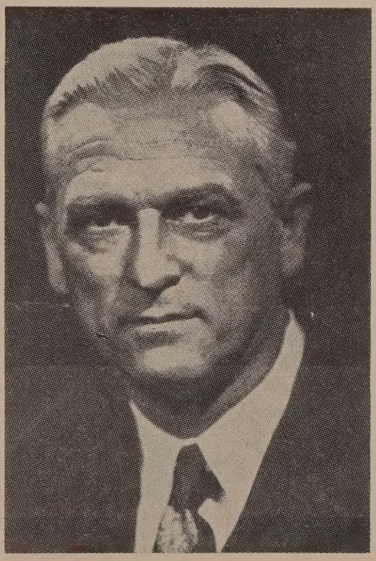
Laymen's Churchmanship Workshop

The second annual Laymen's Churchmanship Workshop will be held at McPherson on September 24 and 25 under the sponsorship of the Kansas Laymen's Fellowship. Guest leaders for the meeting are the Rev. James E. Waery, Executive Secretary of the Missions Council in Chicago and the Rev. George Ogden Kirk, Minister of our Plymouth Congregational Church in Wichita.

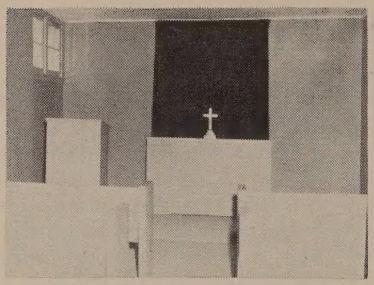
Registration and fellowship will begin at 5 o'clock on Saturday evening. Following a courtesy dinner, Mr. Kirk will bring a message on the subject, "This Is It." Workshops on Evangelism, Stewardship and Laymen's Projects will be held Saturday evening, Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon. Each layman attending will have opportunity to attend one session in each workshop .

Mr. Waery will give leadership to the workshop on Stewardship, lead fellowship singing and bring the Sunday morning sermon. He is a graduate of Yale Divinity School and held pastorates in Minnesota, Iowa and Connecticut before taking his present national post.

With entertainment and courtesy meals provided, we feel that every church should underwrite the car expense for at least a carload of laymen to attend this important meeting. At Emporia last year, 136 men attended from 31 churches. We are expecting at least 200 men at McPherson. Mark the dates!



Rev. George Ogden Kirk



Korab Memorial Chapel Dedication

At a fitting service at Doane College on May 29, the Korab Memorial Chapel was dedicated under the leadership of Dr. Herbert R. Loring, Dean of the Chapel and Associate Profeseor of Religion.

Furnishing and redecorating the chapel in memory of Frank Korab, outstanding Kansas layman, was made possible thru a special gifts project sponsored by the Kansas Laymen's Fellowship. The new pews, pulpit and Communion table are bleached oak; a large wooden cross against the maroon dossal curtain creates a focal center of worship; the walls are finished in pastel peach. This place of worship is a beautiful and fitting memorial to this great Christian layman, alumnus of Doane College. It will serve as a place of quiet meditation for Doane students for years to come.

Thus we remember Frank Korab's vigor and enthusiasm, his agressive churchmanship, his boundless optimism and unlimited devotion.

Men's Guest Night

Eighty attended the meeting of the Laymen's Fellowship of the United Church of Osborne, May 16, when the men, under the direction of the Rev. Samuel Lee, served the dinner to their wives.

Fred Chalk led the fun singing, Lee Schmeil led the hymn singing, and Laurence Woolley had the worship service. Mrs. Erle Clark very interestingly told and showed pictures of the Carribean tour she and Mr. Clark recently took. The Rev. and Mrs. Hans Poppe and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Ewing of Russell were out-of-town guests.

Leavenworth Brotherhood

On June 3rd this men's group chartered two busses and a block of 58 reserved seats for the Boston-Kansas City game in Municipal Stadium, Kansas City. A grand evening of fellowship and fun.

All-Church Picnic

Each year the Men's Club of Wichita Fairmount sponsors an all-church picnic at Fairmount Park with games and contests for all. This year's attendance on May 21 was the largest ever. Families brought baskets and ice cream bars and soft drinks were furnished by the men.

La Foret Conference

The fifth annual week-long Conference for laymen and women will be held at La Foret, August 14-21. Dr. Allen Wehrli will lead a Bible hour for everyone. Other leaders include Dr. Albert Buckner Coe, National Moderator; Mr. Oz Black and Walter Graham. The total cost $27.50 assures you a wonderful and worthwhile week in Colorado.

Kansas Women's Fellowship

Mrs. Gordon Lancaster, President

Mrs. Gordon Lancaster
State President

To Our Kansas Women's Fellowship:

We Congregational Christian women in Kansas have an exciting and adventurous year ahead of us.

We're going to become rebels. When we read "This Revolutionary Faith" and "Within Two Worlds". we'll know how to be Christian revolutionaries.

We're going to have a part in the Every Church Visitation and the Every Member Canvass.

We're going to be giving our Fellowship monies thru apportionment channels and not for this drive or that; for if we dont support Our Christian World Mission, no one will. We will give as individuals to the many other worthy drives and causes.

We're going to promote The Woman's Gift. What a thrill this is going to be when we dedicate our goal of $4,250.00.

We're going to stimulate interest in our young people to major in Christian vocations.

We're going to entertain the world within our very own walls by inviting international students to our homes and our interests.

Adventure, Excitement, Knowledge, Dedication, Growth of Soul; all these are ours when we take part in the above listed 1955-56 goals as adopted in Cleveland last January for all Congregational Christian women in the United States. By joining with the other women, we are making our efforts and the total result much stronger and finer.

To become State President in such a time is a great challenge and I am inspired by it. My prayer is that each and every one of you will have the joy of seeing these goals accomplished — accomplished by you, your neighbors in Kansas, and throughout the United States.

Vera Lancaster, (Mrs. Gordon)

We Have An Orphanage

"Ours is the only Orphanage in the Congregational Christian fellowship, as far as I know." This is the first paragraph of a letter written by John G. Truitt, Superintendent of the Christian Orphanage, Inc.

It is possible that none of us have known of this Orphanage before, even though it has been receiving and placing children for 49 years. Mr. Truitt's bulletin of March 23, 1955 indicates that this is the first appeal to Congregational Christian Women all across the United States.

Eighty homeless children find a home in this institution until a better home may be provided. A homeless child — three words that touch our hearts with pity, and we are thankful that our denomination has been providing help for these children. Mr. Truitt is an ordained CC minister, a college and seminary graduate and has had several years pastoral experience.

We can help by sending contributions of money or he suggests we save coupons from the following products and mail them to:

The Christian Orphanage,
P.O. Box 157,
Elon College, N.C.

Octagon Soap Products
Bordens Ev. & Cond. Milk
Luzianne Coffee and Tea
Ballard Flour and Mixes
Mrs. Filbert's Margarine and Salad Products
Rumford Baking Powder
Rival Dog and Cat Food
Pillsbury Flour and Mixes
General Mills Products
Gold Medal Flour
Softasilk Cake Flour
Wheaties
Cheerios
Kix
Sugar Jets
Betty Crocker Cereal Tray
Bisquick
Betty Crocker Pie Crust Mix
Betty Crocker Cake Mixes

Now we know there is a Congregational Christian orphanage in our country. Now let us do what we can to help this orphanage. "Every child is given loving care and attention." This is a comforting quotation from the literature received and we will be more comforted when we do what we can.

Missionary To China Speaks

On May 20, Dr. Rosie Riste, for 30 years a Missionary at Christian Medical College at Ludhiana Punjab, India, spoke in Lenora. She used colored slides and costumes to illustrate her talk.

The American Board

NEEDS

Top-notch Representatives from Our Congregational Christian Churches.

MINISTERS

to work with churches in Africa, Japan, Europe, Mexico, Micronesia, and for community service in the Near East.

DOCTORS

for hospitals in India and the Near East.

NURSES

with degrees for hospitals, nurses training and public health work in Africa, India and Turkey.

TEACHERS

for secondary schools in Africa, Philippines, Syria and Turkey — teaching English, math, science, home economics and commerical subjects.

BUSINESS MANAGER

for Rhodesia and a SECRETARY in Turkey.

Most of the teachers are urgently needed to begin work in September 1955.

WRITE NOW TO

Candidate Department
The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
14 Beacon Street
Boston 8, Mass.

William Ward to Ottawa

Beginning July first, the Rev. William Ward will take over leadership of Ottawa Federated Church. For the past two years, Mr. Ward has served a Larger Parish which included the Rantoul Methodist Church and the Peoria and Stanton E.U.B. churches.

Mr. Ward is a graduate of the University of Southern California and earned his B.D. degree at San Francisco Seminary, graduating in 1953. He is married and has one son Richard Edward, nine years of age.

The Rev. Wm. E. Berger for the past three years minister at Ottawa has accepted a position on the faculty of College of Emporia.

Ordination of W. W. Schroeder

The Rev. W. W. Schroeder, graduate this spring from Chicago Theological Seminary, returned to his home church, Newton Congregational for his ordination on Sunday, June 12. Local arrangements were made by the Rev. David Railsback. Following a paper and examination by the Southern Association, a dinner was served by the Newton women. At the ordination service in the evening, the sermon was given by the Rev. Paul Davis of Garden City. Mr. Schroeder plans to go into the Air Force or Navy Reserve as a Chaplain.

Rural Life Sunday

The Rev. Louis Poppe reports a unanimous response to his questionnaire regarding Rural Life Sunday observance from our 67 Kansas churches with active pastors. Fifty-two of the 67 observed Rural Life Sunday on May 15 this year. A fine response!

Smith Center Anniversary

On April 24 the Smith Center Congregational Church observed the 82nd anniversary of the founding of the church. Average attendance at Sunday services in April was 132 according to the Rev. Harald Wisegarver, Minister.

Open House

On May 16, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Garvey and Mrs. John W. Gibson held Open House at the Garvey home in Wichita honoring Dr. and Mrs. Robert Blyth of Cleveland. Dr. Blyth ,interim minister at Wichita Plymouth, gave the charge to the congregation at the installation of the Rev. George Ogden Kirk on May 15.

A Boy

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel R. Hopkins of Garden City announce the arrival of a son on May 16.

Udall Disaster

As we go to press the nation is still stunned by the terrible tragedy in our state on May 25. When the town of Udall was levelled by the worst tornado in Kansas history, our Congregational Church and parsonage and most of the homes of its members were left piles of splintered rubble.

Among the 80 who lost their lives were at least eight of the 98 members of our Congregational Church; many more are among the injured. The death toll would have been greater had not many of our members lived in the rural area.

Ministers and members of our sister churches in Wichita and nearby towns are helping in every possible way with man hours, clothing, food and furniture. An appeal letter went to ministers and key people in our churches in the state asking for funds to be placed against the greatest need of our Udall church, At present it seems that a church structure is the greatest need. The Rev. George Ogden Kirk reports a Udall member as saying they felt they could go ahead with rebuilding their homes if they just had a church.

Generous contributions are coming in. Letters of concern from other states have been received. The Board of Home Missions has written assuring their cooperation. We feel that it is safe to say that when the town of Udall is rebuilt, THE CHURCH WILL BE THERE! Do what you can.

Retired Ministers Living At Udall

The Rev. Harry Scott, retired Pastor Emeritus of the Udall Church with Mrs. Scott was spending the night of May 25 in Wichita. Their home at Udall was completely demolished. The Rev. and Mrs. Oscar Magnuson, also retired leaders who previously served the Udall Church sought shelter in their damaged car after their home was blown from around them. They are at the home of a son living near Udall.

Udall News

News sent in by the clerk of the church, Mrs. Ira Satterthwaite a few days before the tragedy told of an Easter Sunrise service sponsored jointly by the three Udall churches. Four members were received into our church at Easter and 4 infants were baptized. A new exit out of the church basement had just been completed. Union Vacation Bible School started May 24 the day before the tornado and was to last 10 days.

Elsie Farris Records

Recordings of the three addresses delivered by Miss Elsie Farris at Garden City are available from the Conference Office.

"Doc" Dull's Anniversary

A large number of members and friends of Topeka Seaman Community Church surprised the Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Dull on the evening of May 30 with a Basket Supper at the church. The occasion was the anniversary of the completion of Mr. Dull's 27th year as pastor of the church. A highlight of the evening was the public announcement of the church's acquiring the two acres of ground just north of the present church building. This ground, formerly the Seaman High School Athletic Field was acquired at practically no cost to the church. At present it will be developed into parking space and a playground, but in the long range planning of the church it will make a building expansion program possible. The Church School is fast outgrowing the present facilities.

At Your Service

Orville M. Hepler

After thirteen years in the parish ministry, it was not easy to decide to leave it even for awhile. During that time, it was my vocation and my avocation, for a minister must give his whole attention to his ministry.

Now, as a member of the conference staff, my schedule is different but the work falls into much the same general categories as it did when serving a parish.

Office Work

Every minister has office work. Many hours are devoted to the answering of letters, to the preparation and sending of the audio-visual materials to the churches that need them, to the filing and arranging of the mass of printed matter that constantly accumulates. Part of my time has been spent in rearranging the materials and enlarging the space for books, films and records. I can forsee that my correspondence will be more extensive than ever before so I will make every effort to streamline the stenographic part of my work.

Study

Every minister should study. So many books beckon to be read. So many magazines and pamphlets pass through our hands. The present age is not easy to understand, let alone interpret in the light of the perennial message of the Gospel. When a fellow-minister told me recently that he had read his Bible 34 times from cover to cover with notes in the last 5 years, he made me ashamed. We are tempted to read so much that we may neglect the Source Book of our faith.

Be sure to read the summer course for Older Young People and Adults in Pilgrim Series. Its title is "*Sharing Our Religion*," by Kendig Brubaker Cully. The author uses the hymn, "Take My Life and Let it Be," as the outline for the chapters. It is fresh and stimulating.

Another important book you will enjoy reading is "*Revolution in Missions*," by Willis Church Lamont.

Although the Conference Office is spacious, there was not room for me to add my library and office files. Hence I converted a large closet in our home into a study. As yet, I have not found much time to spend in it, but I hope to be able to use it with regularity.

Committee Work

Every minister finds that he must spend time with individuals and committees in planning the on-going work of the parish. The committees are not easily called together now so I must confer much with Superintendent and Mrs. Rymph in order to know what to do. Committees look to the minister for leadership so he must be prepared in advance by study so that he can anticipate the needs and be ready with many of the answers to questions which are bound to arise.

Conference Boards and Committees will meet in Topka for a series of planning sessions from September 14 to 26 with the Conference Staff.

Social Obligations

Every minister finds himself involved in social obligations such as dinner meetings sponsored by organizations within the church, community-wide meetings of fellowship between the churches, and sundry other gatherings. We had not been in Topeka very long before we were invited to attend

the dinner for all the members of the First Congregational Church who had joined during the past year. It was indeed a festive occasion. In addition to the excellent dinner and fine music, the speaker of the evening, Nyle Miller, related many interesting events in the early history of Topeka and in the 100 year record of the First Congregational Church.

The Seabrook Women's Fellowship invited us to be present at their May meeting. The meting was well attended and we were much impressed by the quality of leadership that Mrs. Dale Dugan is giving the group. Her impromptu report on the State Conference at Garden City was excellent.

Circle 8 of the Women's Fellowship of Central Church met in the home of our near neighbor, Mrs. Paul Adams, so I could not refuse an invitation to be present at their luncheon. It was a pleasure to become acquainted with so many of the loyal supporters of Central Church. I especially enjoyed visiting with Mrs. J. B. Gonzales whose husband had spent many years as State Superintendent.

Christian Education and Youth Work

Every minister should take an active interest in the Church School and the Youth Program of his church. As yet, I have not been able to attend any youth meetings, but I hope to do so regularly in the future. When I visited the First Congregational Church, I was very much impressed by the Social Action Class for young adults, even though it did meet in the kitchen. The resource leader for the day was the Park Commissioner, Mr. William Yerkes, and I learned about some of the problems Topeka faces in providing proper recreational opportunities for its citizens.

In other churches, I visited from class to class except at Central Church where I heard Dr. Merton French lecture on Comparative Religion to the Home-Builders Class. With such a teacher, no wonder it is a large class.

Preaching

Every minister must be ready to pour out his soul at the service of public worship each Sunday and sometimes during the week. So far, I have not done any preaching, but my available Sundays are practically all scheduled until Labor Day.

In addition to speaking to the women at Seabrook Church at their May meeting, I have spoken at the Ottawa Federated Church. I was pleasantly surprised to learn, when I arrived at Ottawa, that instead of a small dinner meeting with the leaders of the church school, there was planned a farewell dinner for Rev. and Mrs. William Berger who are leaving the pastorate in June to move to Emporia where he will be a Professor of history at the College of Emporia. The church presented the Bergers with some fine silverware as a farewell token of love and esteem.

Pastoral Calling

Every minister must do much pastoral calling. My calling takes the form of visiting churches and pastors. So far, I have been in six different churches. In addition to the four churches in Topeka, I have been in services of morning worship at Carbondale and at Stanley. On both occasions, I was impressed by the vigor of the church school program and the quality of the leadership of the minister. Rev. Clifton Kruse gave a fine sermon on the values of rural life emphasizing the important work of the 4-H clubs. The church was near the point of standing room only.

At Stanley, Rev. Franklyn Jost informed me that he had just received his B.D. degree at the Baptist Seminary in Kansas City. He has a fine group of young people who meet each Wednesday night. The church is prospering under his leadership and will soon be making plans for expansion. The church school sends $18 per month to care for a Philippine girl whose parents have leprosy.

I understand that Rev. Marvin Hein who is serving our church at Wakefield received his degree in the same class with Rev. Franklyn Jost.

The Congregational ministers of Topeka welcomed us to their fellowship at a dinner in the home of Rev. and Mrs. Elmer Erickson. The September 2 meeting of the group will be in our home.

It was our happy privilege to attend the picnic of Southern Association ministers and their families in the Whitewater Federated Church on May 30. They all expressed a deep concern for the church and community of Udall. By the number of small children who attended it is evident that the future of Congregationalism is assured.

Vacation Church Schools

We are heartened by the many reports of Vacation Church Schools which are being conducted by our churches. The demand for audio-visual materials for use in such schools has been heavy and we hope to have more titles available for use next year.

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Altar Dedication

At a special service led by Rev. Floyd Wright at Almena on April 24, new altar furnishings were dedicated. They included a new altar table, lectern, cross and candlesticks, altar cloths and scarfs.

New Organ

The Rev. Roy Curless reports that our Gaylord Church has just purchased a new Hammond electric organ. Attendance at Sunday service is averaging well over 100. A Senior and Junior Hi Pilgrim Fellowship has been organized and a Daily Vacation Bible School was held the last 2 weeks in May.

Guests At Newton

Rural Life Sunday at Newton was observed with the Highland E & R Church people as guests. They shared the Morning Worship and a noon dinner and the Rev. David Railsback reports a fine day of fellowship.

A New Name

The United Church — Evangelical and Reformed and Congregational-Christian, has chosen a new name — "Pilgrim Church of Leavenworth," according to the Rev. Robert E. Baker. Plans for a new building are progressing.

Mound City

The minister, the Rev. Chas. Baar, in a recent bulletin, announced plans completed for the purchase of a new electric organ for the church.

Worker At Wichita Pilgrim

Mr. Richard Barnett, a student from Yale Divinity School will work at Wichita Pilgrim from the middle of June to September first. He comes under the Student Summer Service program.

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